

## PROPOSED REVISIONS

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**Note:** For information regarding admissions, see FD.

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PROMOTION  
**CURRICULUM  
MASTERY**

~~The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations defining the level of achievement for prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grade 1. For those grade levels, grades shall be assigned on a scale of mastered material (M), progressing towards mastery (P), or not progressing (N), with M being the highest grade assigned.~~

**PROMOTION, GRADE-LEVEL ADVANCEMENT, AND COURSE CREDIT SHALL BE BASED ON MASTERY OF THE CURRICULUM AND COMPLIANCE WITH ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD. EXPECTATIONS AND STANDARDS FOR PROMOTION SHALL BE ESTABLISHED FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL, CONTENT AREA, COURSE AND SHALL BE COORDINATED WITH COMPENSATORY, INTENSIVE, AND/OR ACCELERATED SERVICES. [SEE EHBC] THE DISTRICT SHALL COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS WHEN DETERMINING METHODS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES [SEE FB] OR STUDENTS WHO ARE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS [SEE EHBE AND EKBA] TO DEMONSTRATE MASTERY OF THE CURRICULUM.**

**STUDENTS  
RECEIVING  
SPECIAL  
EDUCATION  
SERVICES**

**ANY MODIFIED PROMOTION STANDARDS FOR A STUDENT IN RECEIVING SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE STUDENT'S ADMISSION, REVIEW, AND DISMISSAL (ARD) COMMITTEE AND DOCUMENTED IN THE STUDENT'S INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (IEP). [SEE EHBA SERIES AND EKB]**

**STANDARDS  
FOR MASTERY**

**IN ADDITION TO THE FACTORS IN LAW THAT MUST BE CONSIDERED FOR PROMOTION, MASTERY SHALL BE DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS:**

- 1. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND UNIT EVALUATION SHALL BE USED TO DETERMINE STUDENT GRADES IN A SUBJECT. AN AVERAGE OF 70 OR HIGHER SHALL BE CONSIDERED A PASSING GRADE.**
- 2. MASTERY OF THE SKILLS NECESSARY FOR SUCCESS AT THE NEXT LEVEL SHALL BE VALIDATED BY ASSESSMENTS THAT MAY EITHER BE INCORPORATED INTO UNIT OR FINAL EXAMS OR MAY BE ADMINISTERED SEPARATELY. MASTERY OF AT LEAST 70 PERCENT OF THE OBJECTIVES SHALL BE REQUIRED.**

~~PRE-  
KINDERGARTEN~~

~~In prekindergarten, achieving a grade of P or M in the last nine-week grading period in all areas shall indicate readiness for kindergarten.~~

~~Prekindergarten students shall not be retained.~~

~~KINDERGARTEN~~

~~In kindergarten, achieving a grade of P or M in the last nine week grading period in all areas shall indicate readiness for grade 1. Kindergarten students shall not be retained without the parent's permission.~~

~~GRADE 1~~

~~A student in grade 1, shall be promoted to the next grade level by~~ **ION** ~~achieving a grade of M in the last nine week grading period in each of the following five areas:~~ **SHALL BE BASED ON A STUDENT DEMONSTRATING "APPROACHING PROFICIENT" OR "PROFICIENT" FOR ALL SUBJECT**

~~● Reading~~

~~● Phonological Awareness~~

~~● Phonics~~

~~● Comprehension Strategies~~

~~● Mathematics~~

~~● Number Operations~~

~~● Patterns, Relationships, Algebraic Thinking~~

~~If a student does not achieve a grade of M in each of the five areas, the grade placement committee (GPC) shall convene to determine grade placement.~~

~~The GPC shall consider the following factors:~~

~~1. Student Progress Monitoring;~~

~~2. Texas Primary Reading Index (TPRI)/Tejas Lee Data;~~

~~3. DRA/EDL Level;~~

~~4. Classroom Performance;~~

~~5. Common Assessment Data; and~~

~~6. Attendance.~~

~~GRADES 2-58~~

~~In grades 2-58, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on:~~

- ~~1. a~~ **An overall average of 70 or above, derived by averaging the final numerical grade ON A SCALE OF 100 BASED ON THE COURSE-LEVEL, GRADE-LEVEL**

**STANDARDS (ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS)** for language arts/READING, mathematics, social studies, and science, **AND**

- ~~2. as well as~~ An average of 70 or above in language arts/READING and mathematics.

~~REDUCING  
STUDENT  
RETENTION  
GRADES 2-5~~

~~A student in grades 2-5 who does not meet the conditions for promotion shall be provided opportunities for promotion during the school year. The GPC may review all facts and circumstances, in accordance with the following standards, and shall use multiple measures when making a promotional decision:~~

- ~~1. Evidence of satisfactory student performance, including grades, portfolios, work samples, local assessments, data, previous state assessments, teacher recommendations, or individual reading or mathematics diagnostic tests or inventories, as appropriate;~~
- ~~2. Improvement in student test performance;~~
- ~~3. Extenuating circumstances that may have adversely affected the student's participation in instruction, required assessments, or accelerated instruction; and~~
- ~~4. Consideration of whether a student was not enrolled in a Texas public school for part of the school year.~~

~~A student in grade 2 working at, but not fully developed, in the TPRI/Tejas Lee (in the student's language of instruction) and other multiple measures determined by the GPC shall be eligible to attend extended year program summer school.~~

~~A student in grade 5 who does not pass the first and second administration of the state mandated assessment reading and/or writing and/or mathematics sections of the state mandated assessment shall be required to attend extended year program summer school. The extended year instructional program shall be designed to provide accelerated instruction in a small group setting to prepare the student for the third administration of the state mandated assessment in the subject areas(c) in which the student did not pass the first or second administration of the state mandated assessment in reading and/or mathematics.~~

~~STUDENT SUCCESS  
INITIATIVE~~

~~The Texas Education Code (TEC 28.0211) requires students in grade 5 to take and pass the state mandated assessments in reading and mathematics in order to be promoted. Student Success Initiative (SSI) documentation must be maintained as part of a student's performance record.~~

~~GRADES 6-8~~

~~In grades 6-8, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on the following:~~

- ~~1. The student passes all five core courses (reading, English, mathematics, science, and social studies) with a minimum of 70 in reading and mathematics, and has an overall average of 70 or above, derived by averaging the final numerical grade for all classes; or~~
- ~~2. The student passes four of the five core courses (reading, English, mathematics, science, and social studies) and has an overall average of 70 or above, derived by averaging the final numerical grade for all classes.~~

~~REDUCING  
STUDENT  
RETENTION  
GRADES 6-8~~

~~A student in grades 6-8 who does not meet the conditions for promotion shall be provided opportunities for promotion during the school year. The GPC may review all facts and circumstances, in accordance with the following standards, and shall use multiple measures when making a promotional decision:~~

- ~~1. Evidence of satisfactory student performance, including grades, portfolios, work samples, local assessments, data, previous state assessments, teacher recommendations, or individual reading or mathematics diagnostic tests or inventories, as appropriate;~~
- ~~2. Improvement in student test performance;~~
- ~~3. Extenuating circumstances that may have adversely affected the student's participation in instruction, required assessments, or accelerated instruction; and~~
- ~~4. Consideration of whether a student was not enrolled in a Texas public school for part of the school year.~~

~~A student who has not passed the first and second administration of the grade 8 state-mandated assessment in reading and/or mathematics shall be eligible to attend the extended-year instructional program. The program shall provide accelerated instruction in a small group setting to prepare the student for the third administration of the state-mandated assessment in the subject area(s) in which the student did not pass the first and second administration of the grade 8 state-mandated assessment in reading and/or mathematics.~~

~~STUDENT SUCCESS  
INITIATIVE~~

~~The Texas Education Code (TEC 28.0211) requires students in grade 8 to take and pass the state-mandated assessments in reading and mathematics in order to be promoted. SSI documentation must be maintained as part of a student's performance record.~~

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

EIE  
(LOCAL)

~~CLASSIFICATION OF  
STUDENTS GRADES  
9-12~~

Grade-level advancement for students in grades 9-12 shall be earned by course credit [see EI].

~~Beginning with the freshman class of 2007-08, the following credits shall be required for each classification; provided however, if a student has accumulated enough credits to advance beyond the student's cohort class, the student will not be classified beyond the cohort class unless specifically requested by the parent/guardian.~~

<del>0-6 credits</del>	<del>Grade 9</del>
<del>6.5-12 credits</del>	<del>Grade 10</del>
<del>12.5-18 credits</del>	<del>Grade 11</del>
<del>18.5-26 credits</del>	<del>Grade 12</del>

~~Grade classification without a grade level change form shall be established at the end of the school year and after summer school through the final day of summer break. A change in grade classification after the school year begins shall require a completed grade level change form. No student may be promoted without being included in adequate yearly progress (AYP) testing as either a participant or as being counted as absent for the assessment.~~

~~SPECIAL EDUCATION  
STUDENTS~~

~~The admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee shall determine appropriate assessment and acceleration options for each eligible student receiving special education services under Education Code, Chapter 29, Subchapter A, enrolled in grade 5 or 8, and receiving instruction on grade level on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) in a required subject stated above. [See EIE(LEGAL)]~~

~~For limited English proficient students who receive special education services, decisions shall be made by the ARD committee, including a member of the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC), to ensure that issues related to a student's language proficiency are duly considered. A student's previous testing history and, if applicable, the accelerated instructional program he or she has received, shall be determined prior to convening the grade placement or the ARD committee. [See EIE(LEGAL)]~~

~~LIMITED ENGLISH  
PROFICIENT  
STUDENTS~~

~~In assessing students of limited English proficiency for mastery of the essential knowledge and skills, the District shall be flexible in determining methods to allow the students to demonstrate knowledge or competency independent of their English language skills in the following ways:~~

- ~~1. Assessment in the primary language;~~

~~ACCELERATED  
INSTRUCTION FOR  
GRADES 3-8~~

- ~~2. Assessment using ESL methodologies; and~~
- ~~3. Assessment with multiple varied instruments. [See EHBE]~~

If a student ~~in grades 3-8~~ fails to demonstrate proficiency on a state-mandated assessment, the student shall be provided accelerated instruction in accordance with state law. Additionally, students in grades 5 and 8 shall be subject to all provisions of **GRADE ADVANCEMENT TESTING**, below.

~~Accelerated instruction strategies include:~~

- ~~1. Required tutorials; [See EHBC]~~
- ~~2. Summer school specially designed to assist students in mastering essential knowledge and skills necessary to attain grade-level proficiency;~~
- ~~3. Computer-assisted instruction;~~
- ~~4. Reading improvement classes;~~
- ~~5. Title 1 programs; [See EHBD]~~
- ~~6. Required enrollment in state-mandated assessment remediation classes; and~~
- ~~7. Content mastery learning.~~

~~The accelerated instruction strategies listed above are available for use with students determined to be at risk of dropping out of school and at risk for academic failure.~~

~~The GPC shall monitor the progress of at-risk students to assess their readiness to be instructed in the regular program without accelerated instruction strategies.~~

~~GRADE PLACEMENT  
ADVANCEMENT  
TESTING~~

**EXCEPT WHEN A STUDENT WILL BE ASSESSED IN READING OR MATHEMATICS ABOVE HIS OR HER ENROLLED GRADE LEVEL, STUDENTS IN GRADES 5 AND 8 MUST MEET THE PASSING STANDARD ON THE APPLICABLE STATE-MANDATED ASSESSMENTS IN READING AND MATHEMATICS TO BE PROMOTED TO THE NEXT GRADE LEVEL, IN ADDITION TO THE DISTRICT'S LOCAL STANDARDS FOR MASTERY AND PROMOTION.**

~~In addition to local standards for mastery and promotion, students in grades 5 and 8 must meet the passing standard on an applicable assessment instrument in the subjects required under state law in order to be promoted to the next grade.~~

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

EIE  
(LOCAL)

~~NOTICE TO PARENTS  
OF STUDENTS IN  
GRADES 1-2~~

~~A student in grade 1 or 2 not demonstrating sufficient development on the TPRI of the Tejas Lee shall be identified as at risk of failure on the first administration of the test required for grade advancement. Prior to the end of the school year, the principal or designee shall complete EIE (EXHIBIT) E and provide a copy, either in person or by regular mail, to notify the parent or guardian. A copy of EIE (EXHIBIT) E shall be maintained in the student's cumulative records.~~

~~FIRST FAILURE  
PARENT  
NOTIFICATION~~

~~Within five working days of District receipt of test results from the first administration of an assessment instrument listed at grade advancement testing requirements, the principal or designee shall complete the notice found in EIE (EXHIBIT) A and provide a copy, either in person or by regular mail, to the parent or guardian. A copy of the notice shall be maintained in the student's cumulative records. [See EIE (LEGAL)]~~

~~SECOND FAILURE  
GPC~~

~~Within five working days of receipt of the student's test results for the second test administration, the District shall notify the campus principal of student test results for each student who fails to demonstrate proficiency. Upon receipt of this notice, the principal or designee shall complete the notice found in EIE (EXHIBIT) B and provide a copy, either in person or by regular mail, to notify the parent or guardian of the time and place of the GPC convening and the purpose of the committee. A copy of the notice shall be maintained in the student's cumulative records. Decisions shall be made on an individual student basis, prescribing the accelerated instruction a student is required to receive before the state-mandated assessment is administered the third time. [See EIE (LEGAL)]~~

~~THIRD FAILURE  
GPC~~

~~The GPC [see EIE (LEGAL)] shall be convened for each student who fails to demonstrate proficiency on the third administration of the test required for grade advancement. The principal or designee shall complete the notice found in EIE (EXHIBIT) C and provide a copy, either in person or by regular mail, to notify the parent or guardian of the time and place of the GPC convening. A copy of the notice shall be maintained in the student's cumulative records. The parent or guardian may appeal the retention by submitting a response to the GPC within five working days of receipt of this retention notification.~~

~~The review and final decision of the GPC and accelerated educational plan described below must be appropriately documented on EIE (EXHIBIT) D as meeting the standards below. The placement decision by the GPC shall be made before the start of the next school year or, if applicable, upon reenrollment of a student after this date.~~

~~Regardless of whether a student is promoted or retained, in accordance with EIE(LEGAL), an accelerated educational plan shall be developed for each student who does not pass after three testing opportunities, which shall include instruction that the student's school must provide during the next school year. A copy of this plan, recorded on EIE(EXHIBIT) D, shall be maintained in the student's cumulative record and provided to the school's at-risk coordinator or counselor for monitoring during the succeeding school year. The plan shall provide three week progress reports to the parent or guardian, by certified mail, and the opportunity for consultation with the teacher and/or principal as needed.~~

~~STANDARDS FOR  
GRADE PLACEMENT  
COMMITTEE REVIEW~~

~~The GPC shall review all facts and circumstances in accordance with law.~~

~~The student shall not be promoted unless:~~

- ~~1. All members of the GPC agree that the student is likely to perform on grade level if given additional accelerated instruction during the following school year in accordance with the educational plan developed by the GPC; and~~
- ~~2. The student has completed required accelerated instruction in the subject area for which the student failed to demonstrate proficiency.~~

~~Whether the GPC decides to promote or to retain a student in this manner, the committee shall determine an accelerated instruction plan for the student for the following school year, providing for interim reports to the student's parent and opportunities for the parent to consult with the teacher or principal as needed. The principal or designee shall monitor the student's progress during the following school year to ensure that he or she is progressing in accordance with the plan.~~

~~TEST  
ADMINISTRATION  
SCHEDULE~~

~~The Texas Education Agency (TEA) shall provide three opportunities per year for the tests required for grade advancement as specified in law. The Commissioner of Education shall specify the dates of these administrations in the assessment calendar. Additional test opportunities shall not be provided.~~

~~For students who are absent or do not receive a test score for any test administration, the GPC shall determine, on an individual student basis, whether accelerated instruction is appropriate. If the GPC determines that accelerated instruction is appropriate, the GPC shall prescribe the nature and duration for such instruction.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall select from the state-approved list, if available, for each applicable subject an alternate assessment instrument that may be used for the third testing op-~~



~~portunity. Each student's GPC shall decide whether he or she shall be given the statewide assessment instrument or the applicable alternate instrument for the third testing opportunity. The committee's decision shall be based on a review of the student's performance in the previous testing opportunities, local assessments, and any other circumstances it deems appropriate.~~

~~GRADES 9-12 GRADE  
POINT AVERAGE~~

~~If a student repeats a course acceptable for credit by the District, the last numerical score shall also be recorded. When computing grade point averages (GPAs), both scores shall be used.~~

**DEFINITION OF  
'PARENT'**

**FOR PURPOSES OF THIS POLICY AND DECISIONS RELATED TO GRADE ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS, A STUDENT'S "PARENT" SHALL BE DEFINED TO INCLUDE EITHER OF THE STUDENT'S PARENTS OR GUARDIANS; A PERSON DESIGNATED BY THE PARENT, BY MEANS OF A POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AN AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT AS PROVIDED IN CHAPTER 34 OF THE FAMILY CODE, TO HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE STUDENT IN ALL SCHOOL-RELATED MATTERS [SEE FD]; A SURROGATE PARENT ACTING ON BEHALF OF A STUDENT WITH A DISABILITY; A PERSON DESIGNATED BY THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR DESIGNEE CANNOT BE LOCATED, A PERSON DESIGNATED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OR DESIGNEE TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENT. [SEE EIE(LEGAL)]**

**NO ALTERNATE  
ASSESSMENT  
INSTRUMENT**

**THE DISTRICT SHALL USE ONLY THE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT FOR THE THIRD TESTING OPPORTUNITY.**

**STANDARDS FOR  
PROMOTION UPON  
APPEAL**

**IF A PARENT INITIATES AN APPEAL OF HIS OR HER CHILD'S RETENTION FOLLOWING THE STUDENT'S FAILURE TO DEMONSTRATE PROFICIENCY AFTER THE THIRD TESTING OPPORTUNITY, THE GPC SHALL REVIEW ALL FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW.**

**THE STUDENT SHALL NOT BE PROMOTED UNLESS:**

- 1. ALL MEMBERS OF THE GPC AGREE THAT THE STUDENT IS LIKELY TO PERFORM ON GRADE LEVEL IF GIVEN ADDITIONAL ACCELERATED INSTRUCTION DURING THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL YEAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EDUCATIONAL PLAN DEVELOPED BY THE GPC; AND**
- 2. THE STUDENT HAS COMPLETED REQUIRED ACCELERATED INSTRUCTION IN THE SUBJECT AREA FOR WHICH THE STUDENT FAILED TO DEMONSTRATE PROFICIENCY.**

**WHETHER THE GPC DECIDES TO PROMOTE OR TO RETAIN A STUDENT IN THIS MANNER, THE COMMITTEE SHALL DETERMINE AN ACCELERATED INSTRUCTION PLAN FOR THE STUDENT FOR THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL YEAR, PROVIDING FOR INTERIM REPORTS TO THE STUDENT'S PARENT AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARENT TO CONSULT WITH THE TEACHER OR PRINCIPAL AS NEEDED. THE PRINCIPAL OR DESIGNEE SHALL MONITOR THE STUDENT'S PROGRESS DURING THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL YEAR TO ENSURE THAT HE OR SHE IS PROGRESSING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLAN.**

**TRANSFER STUDENTS**

**When a student transfers into the District having failed to demonstrate proficiency on applicable assessment instruments after two testing opportunities, a GPC shall convene for that student. The GPC shall review any available records of decisions regarding testing and accelerated instruction from the previous district and determine an accelerated instruction plan for the student.**

**If a parent initiates an appeal for promotion when a student transfers into the District having failed to demonstrate proficiency after three testing opportunities, the GPC shall review any available records of decisions regarding testing, accelerated instruction, retention, or promotion from the previous district and issue a decision in accordance with the District's standards for promotion.**

**ASSIGNMENT OF RETAINED STUDENTS**

**A STUDENT NOT PROMOTED TO THE NEXT GRADE LEVEL SHALL REMAIN AT THE SAME CAMPUS, IF HE OR SHE REMAINS IN THE SAME ATTENDANCE ZONE, OR SHALL BE ASSIGNED TO A SIMILAR CAMPUS SETTING DEPENDING ON WHAT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE STUDENT.**

**REDUCING STUDENT RETENTION**

The District shall establish procedures designed to reduce retaining students at a grade level, with the ultimate goal being elimination of the practice of retaining students. [See EHBC]

**~~AUTHORITY~~**

~~The foregoing policy provisions relating to grade advancement testing requirements, the GPC, and the like, are based on the Commissioner's rules concerning the SSI, codified in the Administrative Code at Volume 19, Chapter 101, Subchapter BB, Section 101.2001, et seq.~~